

HELLO AGAIN

VOL 19 NO. 3

MAY-JUNE 1988

A PERSONAL NOTE: The articles in the last issue about Douglas Edwards and CBS World News Roundup were from March issues of Broadcasting Magazine...Even though postage went up, HA will still be \$10 a year. Flyers, however, will now be \$25. They must be on #20 weight paper or less and I prefer them flat. I will need 300 of them and they must be 8 1/2 by 11. If you wish me to print them, send me copy-ready material. The cost for this is \$50 for a 2-sided flyer; \$40 for a 1-sided flyer.

I have a 2-page supplement to my Suspense log. It contains mainly additional cast and some conflicting information. It is available, to those who purchased the log, for a SASE. The Suspense log (40 pages and complete with much information including 2 members of the cast of each show when known) is 8.00.

POSTAGE INFORMATION: First class mail within the US is 25 cents for the first ounce and 20 cents for each additional ounce to 11 ounces. For anything heavier consult rates for priority mail. First class mail to Mexico is the same; to Canada the first ounce is 30 cents; each additional ounce is 22 cents. The postage for international mail is 45 cents each half-ounce for the first 2 ounces. Special 4th class rates for books and tapes are 90 cents for the first pound; 35 cents for each additional pound to 7 pounds. Book rate to Canada is the same as first class if mailed air mail. Book rate by surface mail to Canada is \$1.34 for the first pound; 2 pounds is \$2.30; each additional pound is 90 cents. Post cards are 15 cents; 21 cents to Canada; 36 cents overseas (airmail).

CONVENTION '88: Plans are underway for our next convention. Dates are Oct 20-22, 1988 at the Holiday Inn - North, Newark, NJ. It starts on Thursday and runs through Saturday. Cost: Thursday, \$22 for dinner and evening events (choice of stuffed fillet of sole, London broil, chicken cordon bleu) (6pm - 11pm)...Friday, \$30 for entire day and buffet dinner (12 noon - 11pm). Daytime only is \$7...Saturday, \$39 for entire day and buffet dinner (9am - 11pm). Daytime only is \$8. Hotel rooms are \$57/62. Dealer tables are \$35 (total) for 1 or both days PLUS registration fees. New special guests still being considered are Gale Storm, Kirk Allyn, Lawrence Dobkin, John Houseman, Richard Widmark, Hildegard, Howard Koch, Richard Wilson (with Mercury Theater group). From this list, one to three will probably attend. Official invitations will be sent out by June 1st. Shows being considered for re-creations are: My Little Margie, Gateway to Hollywood, Superman, Let's Pretend, Ellery Queen. Workshops being considered: Tribute to Superman (50 years); Remembering War of the Worlds (50 years); Lending Libraries (T Monroe), Gunsmoke (D Aston); Music of the Lone Ranger (Reg Jones). Registration may be sent now. Mail to Jay Hickerson, Box 4321, Hamden, CT 06514. If coming Thursday, please give dinner choice.

RADIO IS ALIVE AND WELL: As mentioned in the last issue of HA, Mystery Theater will be revived starting June 6 on a bartered basis by Dick Brescia Associates. Also to be broadcast starting in September is "The End of the

{ } If box is checked, \$10 is due for another year

Road" starring Tom Bodette. Tom does the Motel 6 commercials. This program will be similar to Prairie Home Companion and will be taped live from Homer, Alaska, Bodette's home town...Vincent Price is hosting "The Classical Organ," a 13-part series of 1-hour programs produced and distributed by Boston-based WGBH-FM...Emerson Radio Corporation opened the Emerson Radio Hall of Fame at the Empire State Building on May 17th. They will feature displays of old radios. Among those getting inducted are Benny Goodman, Bruce Morrow, Martin Block, Bill Stern, Fred Allen, Arthu Godfrey, Orson Welles, Fran Striker, Virginia Payne, Himan Brown...A forum produced by the Public Media Foundation is scheduled for June 22, 8:00pm, at the New Ehrlich Theater in Boston. The evening will feature a re-creation of a radio mystery darama written by Steven Oney of the Cape Cod Radio Mystery Theater. Following the performance will be an informal panel discussion of the decline and re-emergence of radio drama. For information cantact Wendy Kaastad, Public Media Foundation, 74 Joy St, Boston, MA 02114 (617) 720-1958.

The Los Angeles Classic Theater Works is putting on some original radio shows with name actors such as Ed Asner, Richard Dreyfuss, Harry Hamlin and others performing. Some of the shows may go on National Public Radio. Right now they are performed on local NPR stations. This group is backed by the BBC which airs over 800 hours of new radio drama a year. For more information and cassettes of the shows write L A Theater Works, 681 Venice blvd, Venice, CA 90291...CHARLES MICHELSON announces that 3 more series are being added to his classic radio program series. They are Lights Out, Abbott and Costello Show, The Liberace Show. Michelson now has 26 series with 52 titles in each series. 112 stations are now broadcasting his shows.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED: RETURN WITH US NOW, April; article on Radio in Formal Education....ILLUSTRATED PRESS, April; Jim Snyder gives a critical review of our 1987 Friends of Old-time Radio Convention; Joe Webb gives a response...METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON OTR CLUB NEWS, Apr-May, articles on David Sarnoff; Lady Haw Haw, one of America's radio traitors...NARA NEWS, 1st issue of 1988; articles on Stephanie Joyce Kahn and her work with the blind; computerizing your collection...JACK BENNY TIMES, Jan-Feb, interview with Dennis Day in which Dennis tells of his fight with ALS. Dennis has just released a record which you can purchase by sending \$5.00 to Laura Lee (Jack Benny Fan Club), 15430 Lost Valley Dr, Fort Wayne, IN 46825. She will send groups of checks to Dennis. All profits go to ALS research...SPERDVAC RADIOGRAM, April; Contains a complete review of Carlton E Morse's latest book, "Stuff the Lady's Hatbox."...May; articles on Richard Beals...ON THE AIR, May-Jun; article on Mr. District Attorney...NOSTALGIA DIGEST, Jun-Jul, article on Eve Arden.. OLD TIME RADIO DIGEST, Mar-Apr; articles on Gale Gordon and the Light Crust Doughboys.

BOOKS and MAGAZINES: Carlton E Morse's latest book is Stuff the Lady's Hatbox, an I Love a Mystery novel. It can be ordered from Seven Stones Press, Star Route 50, Woodside, CA 94062. It takes place in the 40's and follows the exciting exploits of Jack, Doc and Gerry Booker. Reggie does not appear directly in the story. It can be ordered for \$16.95 hardcover sor \$9.95 soft cover (plus \$1.50 per book for handling). The only difference between this book and the radio show is that there are no commercial interruptions. The April issue of SPERDVAC has a very lengthy review...A new publication is POW-WOW, a definitive source of information

about Straight Arrow. Cost is \$5.00 for 6 issues from P W, 301 East Buena Vista Ave, North Augusta, SC 29841.

CONVENTIONS: The Golden Radio Buffs of Maryland will hold its 16 anniversary Golden Mike Awards on Sep 16, 7 - 11 pm at Martin's Eudowood in Baltimore, MD. For details write Gene Leitner, 7506 Iroquios Ave, Baltimore, MD 21219; (301) 388-1976. Tentative guests include Dwight Weist, Charlotte Manson, Eric Arthur, Ezra Stone...The National Lum and Abner Society will hold its 4th annual convention on June 18 at the Best Western Lime Tree Inn in Mena, Arkansas. For information send a SASE to Tim Hollis, Rt 3 Box 110, Doro, AL 35062

LOGS: Ray Stanich has a new log available for a SASE (RS, 173 Columbia Hts, Brooklyn, NY 11201). It is REQUEST PERFORMANCE, 10/7/45-4/21/46, complete.

CATALOGS AND NEW SHOWS: Summer catalog of BRC Productions (Bob Burnham), Box 2645, Livonia, MI 48151. It has 26 pages with an index. Large runs of many shows including The Whistler, Escape, Gunsmoke, Lux Radio Theater, Suspense, F M & M. Bob also has a catalog of vintage TV shows on videocassette with an excellent choice...TERRY SALOMONSON, Box 1135, St. Charles, MO 63302 has about 90 new Challenge of the Yukon (9 reels) and 1100 new Lone Ranger (about 100 reels). The Lone Ranger are mostly 1940's. Send Terry \$1.00 for a computer printout of the shows.

YOU AND THE LAW: CHARLES MICHELSON, 9350 Wilshire Blvd, Beverly Hills, CA 90212, writes that there are still people who broadcast OTR shows without regard to copyright. He recently sent a letter to a gentleman in the western part of the country telling him to stop supplying copyright controlled shows to a local radio station, specifically two shows distributed by Michelson. Michelson legally owns the distribution rights to more shows than any one, having investigated copyrights to all he distributes. Michelson doesn't mention whether the station is non-profit or whether that makes a difference.

Michelson enclosed a 1982 press release in which Lone Ranger Television, Inc won a lawsuit against Jim Lewis for unlawfully licensing tapes of Lone Ranger Radio programs. Also enclosed was a portion of a 1987 letter from J Michael Cleary of Brylawski, Cleary & Leeds, a law firm that specializes in copyrights. It stated:

"To the extent that a radio broadcast would not constitute a 'publication' under our law, and also the extent that the scripts were never published or registered, they would have enjoyed common law copyright until January 1, 1978, the effective date of the new copyright law. At that time, they would have secured automatically statutory copyright."

This law essentially says that all material copyright before Jan 1, 1987, holds its copyright, with appropriate renewals, for 75 years.

Comments welcome.

NEW FRIENDS AND RETURNEES: GILBERT HUEY, 90 W Triple Tree Dr, Carrollton, GA 30117 is writing an article on Flash Gordon and needs much information on the radio and tv show...BARBARA COWIN, 866 W 4th St, Ontario,

CA 91762...JAMES ROMIG, 7944-C Mountain Rd, Macungie, PA 18062...STEVEN KUCSMA, 5 burfield Ave, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada L8T 2J8...LEONARD MALTIN, 5555 Melrose Ave, Hollywood, CA 90038. Leonard has written several tv-movie books and is seen on Entertainment Tonight. His article on SPERDVAC'S Convention in 1986 appeared in Smithsonian Magazine...EDWARD HAMILTON, 933 Naismith Pl, Topeka, KS 66606 wants CBS Radio Mystery Theater; prefers cassettes...TOMMY NEEHAN, 275 South Rd, New Hartford, CT 06057...FRANCIS DUNN, Box AT, E Stroudsburg, PA 18301...DAVID RICHARDSON, 2325 McKinley #22, Berkeley, CA 94703...JOHN ZILIUS, 7707 Wagon Trail Ln, Springfield, VA 22153 ...KEN WEIGEL, 7011 Lennox Ave #126, Van Nuys, CA 91405...KEN NEAL, Box 911, Washington, DC 20044...JOE ARMENTO, Box 561, Oak Ridge, TN 37831... MEL SWINGROVER, Box 262, Avalon, CA 90704.

OLD FRIENDS: ALLAN SHERRY, 5410 Netherland Ave, Riverdale, NY 10471 has many memories of radio. He is trying to locate the last date for Prescott Robinson on the air plus any other information about him; also interested in the same information for Gene Hamilton (Doctor Geno)...ANDY BLATT, 42 Bowling Green, Staten Island, NY 10314 has for sale under warranty and never used a Telex stereo cassette duplicator. It retails for \$675. Andy will sell it for \$495 plus shipping...THOMAS HEATHWOOD, 22 Broadlawn Pk, Chestnut Hill, MA 02167 looking for Portia Faces Life, especially July 1948 and April 1949. Also Tom mentions that his radio show, Heritage Radio Theater, is now heard from 6 - 10 pm on Sunday evenings on WBIV AM (1060) in Boston area...JED DOLNICK'S OTR show, The Sounds of Yesterday, has completed 14 years on the air and is now on Sunday nights at 6 pm on WYMS-FM (89)...CHARLES MICHELSON also wrote that he just purchased the Libarace Radio Series - 39 half hours...ROBERT SHEPHERD, 129 Highfields Rd, Abington, MA 02351 wants to know: who was the announcer for Suspense after Larry Thor and also during Bill Robson's era as producer. Also, was the march-type theme that closed many of the late 50's-early 60's show ever commercially available. Robert also wants audio cassettes of original soundtrack music to the movie, Ghost of Frankenstein as well as any library cue action music themes as used on old tv shows like the Adventures of Superman. Robert will supply the tape...Bob Burnham now has an OTR show on WCAR-AM (1090) in Livonia, MI on Mondays at 9:00 am.

IN FOND MEMORY: ROBERT VAHAY BROWN, Feb 14, 82; radio and tv announcer and producer (Ma Perkins, Vic and Sade)...JIM JORDAN, Apr 1, 91; Fibber McGee. Tom Price and Charles Stumpf have done more research then anyone on this man. All you every wanted to know is in their book, Heavenly Days, still available from Tom Price, Box 1661, Salinas, CA 93902 (408) 372-7966. Cost is \$16.95 per book, over 330 pages, and fully indexed...HOLLAND ENGLE, Mar 24, 80; former newscaster for WGN. Announced such shows as The Carnation Contented Hour...MILTON CANIFF, Apr 3, 81; creator of Terry and the Pirates and Steve Canyon...ALBERT SCHWARTZ, Mar 26, 77; comedy writer (Bob Hope)...GEROGE ROCK, Apr 12, 68; trumpet player and vocalist for Spike Jones Orchestra...LANNY ROSS, Apr 25, 82. I had the good fortune to accompany Lanny Ross singing Moonlight and Roses at an award ceremony of the National Broadcasters Hall of Fame several years ago...IRENE RICH, Apr 22, 96; film and radio actress (Dear John)...SANFORD H BARNETT, Apr 14, 79; radio and tv writer (Rudy Vallee, Lux Radio Theater).

* * *

JAY HICKERSON, Box 4321, Hamden, Ct 06514 (203) 248-2887 \$10/year